

5 - said jacket adapted to be adjusted on said heart to snugly conform to an external geometry of said heart and assume a maximum adjusted volume for said jacket to constrain circumferential expansion of said heart beyond said maximum adjusted volume during diastole and permit unimpeded contraction of said heart during systole.

15. A device according to claim 2 wherein said jacket circumferentially surrounds said heart.

10 16. A method for treating cardiac disease of a patient's heart, said method comprising:

- surgically accessing said patient's heart and diaphragm;

15 - placing a jacket around said heart, said jacket comprising a
biomedical material having an upper end and a lower end;

20 - adjusting said jacket on said heart to snugly conform to an external geometry of said heart and assume a maximum adjusted volume for said jacket to constrain circumferential expansion of said heart beyond said maximum adjusted volume during diastole and permitting unimpeded contraction of said heart during systole; and

- securing said lower end of said jacket to said diaphragm.

17. A method according to claim 16 wherein said lower end of said jacket is secured to said diaphragm using sutures.

18. A method for treating cardiac disease of a heart having a longitudinal axis
30 from an apex to a base and having an upper portion and a lower portion
divided by an A-V groove, said heart including a valvular annulus adjacent